

Old English Valour :

BEING

An ACCOUNT

OF

A Remarkable Sea - Engagement,
Anno 1591.

WRITTEN BY

Sir WALTER RALEIGH, *Knt.*

Very proper to be read by Sea-Officers and
British Sailors.



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ENGLISH VALOUR

EXEMPLIFIED.

ECAUSE the Rumours are diversly spread, as well in *England* as in the *Low Countries*, and elsewhere, of this late Encounter between Her Majesty's Ships and the *Armada* of *Spain*; and that the *Spaniards*, according to their usual Manner, fill the World with their vain-glorious Vaunts, making great Appearance of Victories, when, on the contrary, themselves are most commonly and shamefully beaten and dishonoured; thereby hoping to possess the ignorant Multitude, by anticipating and forerunning false Reports. It is agreeable with all good Reason, for Manifestation of
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the Truth, to overcome Falshood and Untruth; that the Beginning, Continuance and Success of this late honourable Encounter of Sir *Richard Greenville*, and other Her Majesty's Captains, with the *Armada* of *Spain*, should be truly set down and published, without Partiality or false Imaginations.

And it is no Marvel that the *Spaniards* should seek, by false and slanderous Pamphlets, Advisoes and Letters, to cover their own Loss, and to derogate from others their due Honours, especially in this Fight, being performed far off; seeing they were not ashamed in the Year 1588, when they purposed the Invasion of this Land, to publish, in sundry Languages in Print, great Victories in Words, which they pleaded to have obtained against this Realm, and spread the same in a most false Sort over all Parts of *France*, *Italy*, and elsewhere: When, shortly after, it was happily manifested in very Deed to all Nations, how their Navy, which they termed invincible, consisting of one Hundred and Forty Sail of Ships, (not only of their own Kingdom, but strengthened with the greatest Argosies, *Portugal* Caracks, *Florentines*, and huge Hulks of other Countries) were, by thirty of Her Majesty's own Ships of War, and a few of our own Merchants, by the wise, valiant, and advantagious Conduct of the Lord *Charles Howard*, High-Admiral

Admiral of *England*, beaten and shuffled together, even from the Lizard in *Cornwall*, first to *Portland*, where they shamefully left Don *Pedro de Valdes*, with his mighty Ship; from *Portland* to *Cales*, where they lost *Hugo de Moncado*, with the Gallies of which he was Captain; and from *Cales*, driven with Squibs from their Anchors, were chased out of the Sight of *England*, round about *Scotland* and *Ireland*: Where, for the Sympathy of their barbarous Religion, hoping to find Succour and Assistance, a great Part of them were crush'd against the Rocks; and those other that landed, being very many in Number, were notwithstanding broken, slain and taken, and so sent from Village to Village coupled in Halters, to be shipped into *England*: Where Her Majesty, of Her princely and invincible Disposition, disdaining to put them to Death, and scorning either to retain or entertain them, they were all sent back again to their Countries, to witness and recount the worthy Atchievements of their invincible and dreadful Navy: Of which the Number of Soldiers, the fearful Burthen of their Ships, the Commanders Names of every Squadron, with all other their Magazines of Provisions were put in Print, as an Army and a Navy unresistable, and disdaining Prevention. With all which so great and terrible an Ostentation, they did not in all their sailing round about *England*, so much as sink or

take one Ship, Bark, Pinnace, or Cockboat of ours, or ever burnt so much as one Sheep-cot of this Land: Whereas, on the contrary, Sir *Francis Drake*, with only eight Hundred Soldiers, not long before, landed in their *Indies*, and forced *St. Iago*, *St. Domingo*, *Carthagena*, and the Forts of *Florida*.

And after that, Sir *John Norris* marched from *Peniche*, in *Portugal*, with a Handful of Soldiers to the Gates of *Lisbon*, being above forty *English* Miles: Where the Earl of *Essex* himself, and other valiant Gentlemen, braved the City of *Lisbon*, encamped at the very Gates; from whence, after many Days Abode, finding neither promised Party, nor Provision to batter, they made Retreat by Land, in despite of all their Garrisons, both of Horse and Foot.

In this Sort I have a little digressed from my first Purpose, only by the necessary Comparison of theirs and our Actions; the one covetous of Honour, without Vaunt of Ostentation; the other so greedy to purchase the Opinion of their own Affairs, and by false Rumours to resist the Blasts of their own Dishonours, as they will not only not blush to spread all Manner of Untruths, but even for the least Advantage, be it but for the taking of one poor Adventurer of the *English*, will celebrate the Victory with Bon-fires

fires in every Town, always spending more in Faggots, then the Purchase was worth they obtained: When, as we never thought it worth the Consumption of two Billets, when we have taken eight or ten of their *Indian* Ships at one Time, and twenty of the *Brazil* Fleet. Such is the Difference between true Valour and Ostentation; and between honourable Actions, and frivolous vain-glorious Vaunts. But now to return to my Purpose:

The Lord *Thomas Howard*, with six of Her Majesty's Ships, six Victuallers of *London*, the Bark *Raleigh*, and two or three other Pinnaces, riding at Anchor near unto *Flores*, one of the Westerly Islands of the *Azores*, the Last of *August* in the Afternoon, had Intelligence, by one Captain *Middleton*, of the Approach of the *Spanish Armada*: Which *Middleton*, being in a very good Sailer, had kept them Company three Days before, of good Purpose, both to discover their Forces the more, as also to give Advice to my Lord *Thomas* of their Approach.

He had no sooner delivered the News, but the Fleet was in Sight: Many of our Ships Companies were on Shore in the Island; some providing Ballast for their Ships, others filling of Water and refreshing themselves from the Land, with such Things as
they

they could either for Money, or by Force, recover. By Reason whereof our Ships being all pestered and rummaging, every Thing out of Order, very light for want of Balast; and, that which was most to our Disadvantage, the one Half-Part of the Men of every Ship sick, and utterly unserviceable: For in the *Revenge*, there were Ninety diseased; in the *Bonadventure*, not so many in Health as could handle her Main-Sail; for had not twenty Men been taken out of a Bark of Sir George Carey's, his being commanded to be sunk, and those appointed to her, she had hardly ever recovered *England*: The Rest, for the most Part, were in little better State. The Names of Her Majesty's Ships were these as followeth: The *Defiance*, which was Admiral; the *Revenge*, Vice-Admiral; the *Bonadventure*, commanded by Captain *Cross*; the *Lion*, by George Fenner; the *Forefight*, by Thomas Vavasour; and the *Crane*, by Duffield.

The *Forefight* and the *Crane* being but small Ships, only the other were of the Middle-Size; the rest, besides the Bark *Raleigh*, commanded by Captain *Thin*, were Victuallers, and of small Force or none. The *Spanish* Fleet, having shrouded their Approach by Reason of the Island, were now so soon at Hand, as our Ships had scarce Time to weigh their Anchors; but some of them

them were driven to let slip their Cables, and set sail.

Sir *Richard Greenville* was the last that weighed, to recover the Men that were upon the Island, which otherwise had been lost. The Lord *Thomas*, with the rest, very hardly recovered the Wind; which Sir *Richard Greenville* not being able to do, was persuaded by the Master and others to cut his Main-Sail, and cast about, and to trust to the sailing of the Ship, for the Squadron of *Seville* were on his Weather-Bow. But Sir *Richard* utterly refused to turn from the Enemy; alledging, That he would rather chuse to die, then to dishonour himself, his Country, and Her Majesty's Ship; persuading his Company, that he would pass through the two Squadrons in Despight of them, and enforce those of *Seville* to give him Way, which he performed upon divers of the foremost; who, as the Mariners term it, sprang their Luff, and fell under the Lee of the *Revenge*: But the other Course had been the better, and might right well have been answered in so great an Impossibility of prevailing; notwithstanding, out of the Greatness of his Mind, he could not be persuaded.

In the mean while, as he attended those which were nearest him, the Great *St. Philip*
being

being in the Wind of him, and coming towards him, becalmed his Sails in such Sort, as the Ship could neither make Way, nor feel the Helm; so huge and high charged was the *Spanish* Ship, being of a Thousand and Five Hundred Tons, who after laid the *Revenge* on board. When he was thus bereft of his Sails, the Ships that were under his Lee luffing up, also laid him on board; of which the next was the Admiral of the *Biscayans*, a very mighty and puissant Ship, commanded by *Brittandona*. The said *Philip* carried three Tire of Ordinance on a Side, and eleven Pieces in every Tire. She shot eight forth-right out of her Chafe, besides those of her Stern-Ports.

After the *Revenge* was entangled with this *Philip*, four others boarded her; two on her Lar-board, and two on her Star-board. The Fight thus beginning at Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, continued very terrible all that Evening; but the Great St. *Philip* having received the Lower-Tire of the *Revenge*, discharged with Cross-bar Shot, shifted herself with all Diligence from her Sides, utterly misliking her first Entertainment. Some say that the Ship foundered; but we cannot report it for Truth, unless we were assured.

The

The *Spanish* Ships were filled with Companies of Soldiers; in some Two Hundred, besides the Mariners; in some Five, in others Eight Hundred. In ours there were none at all, besides the Mariners, but the Servants of the Commanders, and some few voluntary Gentlemen only. After many interchanged Volleys of great Ordinance and small Shot, the *Spaniards* deliberated to enter the *Revenge*, and made divers Attempts, hoping to force her by the Multitudes of their armed Soldiers and Musketeers; but were still repulsed again and again, and at all Times beaten back into their own Ships, or into the Seas.

In the Beginning of the Fight, the *George, Noble, of London*, having received some Shot thorough her by the *Armadas*, fell under the Lee of the *Revenge*, and ask'd Sir *Richard* what he would command him, being but one of the Victuallers, and of small Force. Sir *Richard* bid him save himself, and leave him to his Fortune. After the Fight had thus, without Intermission, continued while the Day lasted and some Hours of the Night, many of our Men were slain and hurt; and one of the great Galleons of the *Armada*, and the Admiral of the Hulks, both sunk, and in many other of the *Spanish* Ships great Slaughter was made.

Some write that Sir *Richard* was very dangerously hurt, almost in the Beginning of the Fight, and lay speechless for a Time ere he recovered: But two of the *Revenge's* own Company, brought Home in a Ship of *Lime* from the Islands, examined by some of the Lords and others, affirmed, That he was never so much wounded as that he forsook the Upper-Deck, 'till an Hour before Midnight; and then being shot into the Body with a Musket, as he was a dressing, was again shot into the Head, and withal his Surgeon wounded to Death. This agreeth also with an Examination taken by Sir *Francis Godolphin*, of four other Mariners of the same Ship, being returned; which Examination, the said Sir *Francis* sent unto Mr. *William Killegrew*, of Her Majesty's Privy-Chamber.

But to return to the Fight. The *Spanish* Ships, which attempted to board the *Revenge*, as they were wounded and beaten off, so always others came in their Places, she having never less then two mighty Galleons by her Sides, and aboard her; so that ere the Morning, from Three of the Clock the Day before, there had fifteen several *Armadas* assailed her; and all so ill approved their Entertainment, as they were by the Break of Day, far more willing to hearken to a Composition, then hastily to make any more Assaults or Entries:
But

But as the Day encreased, so our Men decreased ; and as the Light grew more and more, by so much more grew our Discomforts ; for none appeared in Sight, but Enemies, saving one small Ship, called the *Pilgrim*, commanded by *Jacob Whiddon*, who hovered all Night to see the Success ; but, in the Morning, bearing with the *Revenge*, was hunted like a Hare amongst many ravenous Hounds, but escaped.

All the Powder of the *Revenge* to the last Barrel was now spent, all her Pikes broken, forty of her best Men slain, and the most Part of the rest hurt. In the Beginning of the Fight, she had but one Hundred free from Sickness, and fourscore and ten sick, laid in Hold upon the Balast. A small Troop to man such a Ship, and a weak Garrison to resist so mighty an Army !

By those Hundred all was sustained, the Volleys, Boardings, and Enterings of fifteen Ships of War, besides those which beat her at Large : On the contrary, the *Spanish* were always supplied with Soldiers, brought from every Squadron ; all Manner of Arms and Powder at Will. Unto ours there remained no Comfort at all, no Hope, no Supply either of Ships, Men, or Weapons ; the Masts all beaten over board, all her Tackle cut asunder, her Upper-Work altogether razed, and, in

Effect, evened she was with the Water, but the very Foundation or Bottom of a Ship, nothing being left over Head either for Flight or Defence.

Sir *Richard* finding himself in this Distress, and unable any longer to make Resistance, having endured in this fifteen Hours Fight the Assault of fifteen several *Armadas*, all by Turns aboard him, and by Estimation eight Hundred Shot of great Artillery, besides many Assaults and Entries, and that himself and the Ship must needs be possessed by the Enemy, who were now all cast in a Ring round about him (the *Revenge* not able to move one Way or other, but as she was moved with the Waves and Billows of the Sea) commanded the Master-Gunner, whom he knew to be a most resolute Man, to split and sink the Ship, that thereby nothing might remain of Glory or Victory to the *Spaniards*; seeing, in so many Hours Fight, and with so great a Navy they were not able to take her, having had fifteen Hours Time, above ten Thousand Men, and Fifty-three Sail of Men of War to perform it withal; and perswaded the Company, or as many as he could induce, to yield themselves unto God, and to the Mercy of none else: But as they had, like valiant resolute Men, repulsed so many Enemies, they should not now shorten the Honour of their Nation, by prolonging their own Lives for a few Hours, or a few Days.

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The Master-Gunner readily condescended, and divers others; but the Captain and the Master were of another Opinion, and besought Sir *Richard* to have Care of them: Alledging, That the *Spaniards* would be as ready to entertain a Composition, as they were willing to offer the same; and that there being divers sufficient and valiant Men yet living, and whose Wounds were not mortal, they might do their Country and Prince acceptable Service hereafter. And whereas Sir *Richard* had alledged, That the *Spaniards* should never glory to have taken one Ship of Her Majesty's, seeing they had so long and so notably defended themselves; they answered, That the Ship had six Feet Water in Hold, three Shot under Water, which were so weakly stopped, as with the first Working of the Sea, she must needs sink, and was besides so crushed and bruised, as she could never be removed out of the Place.

And as the Matter was thus in Dispute, and Sir *Richard* refusing to hearken to any of those Reasons, the Master of the *Revenge* (while the Captain won unto him the greater Party) was convoy'd aboard the General Don *Alphonso Baçan*; who, finding none over hasty to enter the *Revenge* again, doubting, lest Sir *Richard* would have blown them up and himself, and perceiving by the Report of
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the Master of the *Revenge* his dangerous Disposition, yielded that all their Lives should be saved, the Company sent for *England*, and the better Sort to pay such reasonable Ransom as their Estate would bear, and in the mean Season to be free from Galley or Imprisonment. To this he so much the rather condescended, as well, as I have said, for fear of further Loss and Mischief to themselves, as also for the Desire he had to recover Sir *Richard Greenville*; whom, for his notable Valour, he seem'd greatly to honour and admire.

When this Answer was returned, and that Safety of Life was promised, the common Sort being now at the End of their Peril, the most drew back from Sir *Richard* and the Master-Gunner, being no hard Matter to dissuade Men from Death to Life. The Master-Gunner, finding himself and Sir *Richard* thus prevented and mastered by the greater Number, would have slain himself with a Sword, had he not been by Force with-held and locked into his Cabbin; then the General sent many Boats aboard the *Revenge*, and divers of our Men fearing Sir *Richard's* Disposition, stole away aboard the General and other Ships.

Sir *Richard* thus over-matched, was sent unto by *Alphonso Baçan*, to remove out of the *Revenge*, the Ship being marvellous unsavory, filled with Blood and Bodies of dead
and

and wounded Men, like a Slaughter-House. Sir *Richard* answered, That he might do with his Body what he list, for he esteemed it not, and as he was carried out of the Ship he swooned; and, reviving again, desired the Company to pray for him.

The General used Sir *Richard* with all Humanity, and left nothing unattempted that tended to his Recovery, highly commending his Valour and Worthiness, and greatly bewailing the Danger wherein he was; being unto them a rare Spectacle, and a Resolution seldom approved, to see one Ship turn toward so many Enemies, to endure the Charge and Boarding of so many huge *Armadas*, and to resist and repel the Assaults and Entries of so many Soldiers. All which and more is confirmed by a *Spanish* Captain of the same *Armada*, and a present Actor in the Fight; who being severed from the rest in a Storm, was, by the *Lion* of *London*, a small Ship, taken, and is now Prisoner in *London*.

The General Commander of the *Armada*, was Don *Alphonso Bagan*, Brother to the Marquis of *Santa-Cruz*; the Admiral of the *Biscayne* Squadron, was *Britandona*; of the Squadron of *Seville*, the Marquis of *Arumburch*; the Hulks and Fly-boats were commanded by *Luis Coutinho*. There were slain and drowned in this Fight, well near one
Thousand

Thousand of the Enemies, and two special Commanders Don *Luis de St. John*, and Don *George de Prunaria de Mallaga*, as the *Spanish* Captain confesseth; besides divers others of special Account, whereof as yet Report is not made.

The Admiral of the Hulks, and the *Ascension*, of *Seville*, were both sunk by the Side of the *Revenge*; one other recovered the Road of *St. Michael*, and sunk also there; a fourth ran herself with the Shore to save her Men. Sir *Richard* died, as it is said, the second or third Day aboard the General, and was by them greatly bewailed. What became of his Body, whether it were buried in the Sea, or on the Land, we know not: The Comfort that remaineth to his Friends is, that he hath ended his Life honourably, in Respect of the Reputation won to his Nation and Country, and of the same to his Posterity; and that being dead, he hath not out-lived his own Honour.

For the rest of Her Majesty's Ships that entered not so far into the Fight as the *Revenge*, the Reasons and Causes were these. There were of them but six in all, whereof two were but small Ships; the *Revenge* engaged past Recovery. The Island of *Flores* was on the one Side, fifty-three Sail of the *Spanish*, divided into Squadrons on the other, all as full

full filled with Soldiers as they could contain ; almost the one Half of our Men sick, and not able to serve ; the Ships grown foul, unrumaged, and scarcely able to bear any Sail for want of Balast, having been six Months at the Sea before.

If all the rest had enter'd, all had been lost ; for the very Hugeness of the *Spanish* Fleet, if no other Violence had been offered, would have crush'd them between them into Shivers ; of which the Dishonour and Loss to the Queen had been far greater then the Spoil or Harm that the Enemy could any way have received. Notwithstanding it is very true, that the Lord *Thomas* would have enter'd between the Squadrons, but the rest would not condescend, and the Master of his own Ship offered to leap into the Sea, rather than to conduct that her Majesty's Ship, and the rest to be a Prey to the Enemy, where there was no Hope nor Possibility either of Defence or Victory. Which also, in my Opinion, had ill sort'd or answered the Discretion and Trust of a General, to commit himself and his Charge to an assured Destruction, without Hope or any Likelihood of prevailing ; thereby to diminish the Strength of her Majesty's Navy, and to enrich the Pride and Glory of the Enemy.

The *Forefight* of the Queen's, commanded by Mr. *Thomas Vavisor*, performed a very great Fight, and staid two Hours as near the *Revenge*, as the Weather would permit him; not forsaking the Fight, 'till he was like to be encompassed by the Squadrons, and with great Difficulty cleared himself. The rest gave divers Vollies of Shot, and enter'd as far as the Place permitted, and their own Necessities, to keep the Weather-Gage of the Enemy, until they were parted by Night.

A few Days after the Fight was ended, and the *English* Prisoners dispersed into the *Spanish* and *India* Ships, there arose so great a Storm from the West and North-West, that all the Fleet was dispersed, as well the *Indian* Fleet, which were then come unto them, as the rest of the *Armada* that attended their Arrival; of which fourteen Sail, together with the *Revenge*, and in her two Hundred *Spaniards*, were cast away upon the Isle of *St. Michael*. So it pleased them to honour the Burial of that renowned Ship the *Revenge*, not suffering her to perish alone, for the great Honour she atchieved in her Life-Time.

On the rest of the Islands there were cast away in this Storm, fifteen or sixteen more of the Ships of War: And of an Hundred and odd

odd Sail of the *India* Fleet, expected this Year in *Spain*, what in this Tempest, and what before in the Bay of *Mexico*, and about the *Bermudas*, there were seventy and odd consumed and lost, with those taken by our Ships of *London*; besides one very rich *Indian* Ship, which set herself on fire, being boarded by the *Pilgrim*, and five others taken by Mr. *Wats's* Ships of *London*, between the *Havannah* and Cape St. *Antonio*.

The Fourth of this Month of *November* we received Letters from the *Tercera*, affirming that there are three Thousand Bodies of Men remaining in that Island, saved out of the perished Ships; and that, by the *Spaniards* own Confession, there are ten Thousand cast away in this Storm, besides those that are perished between the Islands and the Main.

Thus it hath pleased God to fight for us, and to defend the Justice of our Cause, against the ambitious and bloody Pretences of the *Spaniards*; who, seeking to devour all Nations, are themselves devoured. A manifest Testimony, how unjust and displeasing their Attempts are in the Sight of God, who hath pleased to witness, by the Success of their Affairs, his Mislike of their bloody and injurious Designs, purposed and practised against all Christian Princes, over whom they seek unlawful and ungodly Rule and Empiry.

One Day or two before this Wreck happened to the *Spanish* Fleet, when as some of our Prisoners desired to be set on Shore upon the Islands, hoping to be from thence transported into *England*, which Liberty was formerly, by the General, promised; one *Morice Fitz John*, Son of old *John* of *Desmond*, a notable Traitor, Cousin - German to the late Earl of *Desmond*, was sent to the *English*, from Ship to Ship, to perswade them to serve the King of *Spain*. The Arguments he used to induce them, were these: The Increase of Pay, which he promised to be trebled; Advancement to the better Sort; and the Exercise of the true Catholick Religion, and Safety of their Souls to all.

For the first, even the beggarly and unnatural Behaviour of those *English* and *Irish* Rebels, that served the King in that present Action, was sufficient to answer the first Argument of rich Pay: For so poor and beggarly they were, as for want of Apparel they stripped their poor Countrymen-Prisoners out of their ragged Garments, worn to nothing by six Months Service; and spared not to despoil them even of their bloody Shirts, from their wounded Bodies, and the very Shoes from their Feet. A notable Testimony of their rich Entertainment and great Wages!

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The second Reason was, Hope of Advancement, if they served well, and would continue faithful to the King. But what Man can be so blockishly ignorant, ever to expect Place or Honour from a foreign King; having no other Argument or Persuasion than his own Disloyalty, to be unnatural to his own Country that bred him; to his Parents that begat him, and rebellious to his true Prince, to whose Obedience he is bound by Oath, by Nature, and by Religion? No, they are only assured to be employed in all desperate Enterprizes, to be held in Scorn and Disdain ever among those whom they serve: And that ever Traitor was either trusted or advanced, I could never yet read; neither can I, at this Time, remember any Example. And no Man could have less become the Place of an Orator, for such a Purpose, than this *Morice of Desmond*; for the Earl, his Cousin, being one of the greatest Subjects in that Kingdom of *Ireland*, having almost whole Countries in his Possession; so many goodly Manors, Castles, and Lordships; the Count Palatine of *Kerry*, five Hundred Gentlemen of his own Name and Family to follow him, besides others (all which he possessed in Peace for three or four Hundred Years) was, in less then three Years after his adhering to the *Spaniards* and Rebellion, beaten from all his Holds, not so many as ten Gentlemen

tlemen of his Name left living, himself taken and beheaded by a Soldier of his own Nation, and his Land given by a Parliament to her Majesty, and possessed by the *English*. His other Cousin, Sir *John* of *Desmond*, taken by Mr. *John Zouche*, and his Body hanged over the Gates of his native City, to be devoured by Ravens. The third Brother, Sir *James*, hanged, drawn, and quartered, in the same Place. If he had withal vaunted of his Success of his own House, no Doubt the Argument would have moved much, and wrought great Effect; which because he, for that present forgot, I thought it good to remember in his Behalf.

For Matter of Religion, it would require a particular Volume, if I should set down how irreligiously they cover their greedy and ambitious Pretences with the Vail of Piety: But sure I am, that there is no Kingdom or Commonwealth in all *Europe*, but, if they be reformed, they then invade it for Religion sake; if it be, as they term Catholick, they pretend Title; as if the Kings of *Castile* were the natural Heirs of all the World; and so, between both, no Kingdom is unsought. Where they dare not with their own Forces to invade, they basely entertain the Traitors and Vagabonds of all Nations; seeking, by those, and by their Runagate Jesuits, to win Parts, and have, by that Means, ruined
many

many noble Houses, and others, in this Land, and have extinguished both their Lives and Families. What Good, Honour, or Fortune; ever Man yet by them atchieved, is yet unheard of, or unwritten; and if our *English* Papists do but look into *Portugal*, against which they have no Pretence of Religion, how the Nobility are put to Death, imprisoned, their rich Men made a Prey, and all Sorts of People captivated, they shall find that the Obedience, even of the *Turk*, is easy and a Liberty, in Respect of the Slavery and Tyranny of *Spain*.

What have they done in *Sicily*, in *Naples*, *Milan*, and in the *Low-Countries*? Who hath there been spared for Religion at all? And it cometh to my Remembrance of a certain Burgher of *Antwerp*, whose House being entered by a Company of *Spanish* Soldiers, when they first sacked the City, he besought them to spare him and his Goods, being a good Catholick, and one of their own Party and Faction. The *Spaniards* answered, That they knew him to be of a good Conscience for himself, but his Money, Plate, Jewels and Goods, were all heretical, and therefore good Prize: So they abused and tormented the foolish *Fleming*, who hoped that an *Agnus Dei* had been a sufficient Target against all Force of that holy and charitable Nation.

Neither

Neither have they, at any Time, as they protest, invaded the Kingdoms of the *Indies* and *Peru*, and elsewhere, but only led thereunto, rather to reduce the People to Christianity, than for either Gold or Empire; when, as in one only Island, called, *Hispaniola*, they have wasted thirty Hundred Thousand of the natural People, besides many Millions else in other Places of the *Indies*. A poor and harmless People, created of God; and might have been won to his Knowledge, as many of them were, and almost as many as ever were perswaded thereunto. The Story whereof is at large written by a Bishop of their own Nation, called, *Bartholomew de las Casas*, and translated into *English*, and many other Languages, entitled, *The Spanish Cruelties*.

Who would therefore repose Trust in such a Nation of ravenous Strangers; and especially in those *Spaniards*, which more greedily thirst after *English* Blood, than after the Lives of any other People of *Europe*, for the many Overthrows and Dishonours they have received at our Hands; whose Weakness we have discovered to the World, and whose Forces at Home, Abroad, in *Europe*, in *India*, by Sea and Land, we have even, with Handfuls of Men and Ships, overthrown and dishonoured?

Let

Let not therefore any *Englishman*, of what Religion soever, have other Opinion of the *Spaniards*; but that those whom he seeketh to win of our Nation, he esteemeth base and traitorous; unworthy Persons, or unconstant Fools: And that he useth his Pretence of Religion, for no other Purpose but to bewitch us from the Obedience of our natural Prince; thereby hoping, in Time, to bring us to Slavery and Subjection, and then none shall be unto them so odious and disdained, as the Traitors themselves; who have sold their Country to a Stranger, and forsaken their Faith and Obedience, contrary to Nature and Religion; and contrary to that humane and general Honour, not only of Christians, but of heathen and irreligious Nations, who have always sustained what Labour soever, and embraced even Death itself, for their Country, Prince, or Common-wealth.

To conclude; it hath ever, to this Day, pleased God to prosper and defend her Majesty, to break the Purposes of malicious Enemies, of forsworn Traitors, and of unjust Practices and Invasions. She hath ever been honoured of the worthiest Kings, served by faithful Subjects; and shall, by the Favour of God, resist, repel, and confound all what-

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soever

soever Attempts against her sacred Person or Kingdom.

In the mean Time, let the *Spaniard* and Traitor vaunt of their Success; and we, Her true and obedient Vassals, guided by the shining Light of Her Virtues, shall always love Her, serve Her, and obey Her, to the End of our Lives.

FINIS.



